



THE WEATHER
Fair and colder today; tomorrow fair,
with rising temperature.
Highest temperature yesterday, 40; low-
est, 25.

THE WASHINGTON HERALD

Theodore Roosevelt
You cannot fail to worship his memory
after reading his letters to his children.
Every morning in The Herald.

NO. 4806 WASHINGTON, D. C., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1919. ONE CENT in Washington and suburbs. Elsewhere Two Cents.

RETAIL COAL PRICES ARE RAISED

Railroads Will Be Returned to Private Owners March 1

U. S. TO END ITS CONTROL OF EXPRESS

Inability of Corporations to Resume Operation Effectively by Dec. 31 Actuates Administration in Putting Off Time of Releasing Properties.

PRESIDENT ISSUES TWO PROCLAMATIONS

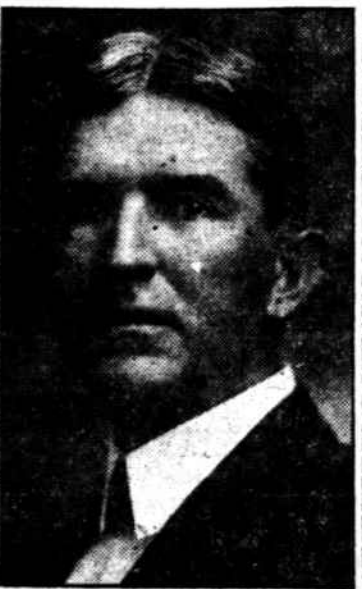
Tumulty Supplements Them With Statement Giving Reasons for Fixing Date Designated—Hines Urges Aids to Give Public Good Service.

President Wilson issued two proclamations last night, announcing that Federal control of the railroads and of the American Railway Express Company would be relinquished by the government on March 1, 1920, at 12:01 a. m.

AT WASHINGTON THEATERS

- National—"The Better 'Ole."
- Shubert-Garrick—"Piccadilly Jim."
- Shubert-Belasco-Jane Cowl in "Smilin' Through."
- Poli—"Zip, Goes a Million."
- Moore's Rialto—Katherine McDonald in "The Thunderbolt."
- Loew's Palace—Marguerite Clark in "A Girl Named Mary."
- Crandall's Metropolitan—"The Girl from Outside."
- Crandall's—"Mabel Normand in 'Jinx.'"
- Moore's Garden—"Everywoman."
- Moore's Strand—"Desert Gold."
- Loew's Columbia—Bessie Barriscale in "Beckoning Roads."
- Cosmos—Continuous vaudeville and pictures.
- Crandall's Knickerbocker—Constance Talmadge in "The Virtuous Vamp."
- B. F. Keith's—Vaudeville.
- Gayety—Burlesque; "Oh, Girl" Company.
- Polly—Burlesque; "Blue Birds."
- The Coliseum—Roller Skating.

Congress Member And Former Judge Taken by Death



BEATTY TRIAL JUDGE IS DEAD

Mastoiditis Claims Life of Representative Walter A. Watson, of Virginia.

Representative Walter A. Watson, of Virginia, who as a judge tried the Beatty murder case several years ago, died yesterday afternoon at the Episcopal Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital following a lingering illness from mastoiditis.

He Seeks Wilson, Riot Squad Comes

Alarmed over a hurry-up call from the White House police, a squad of headquarters detectives rushed to the Executive Mansion at 8 o'clock last night to find only a quiet little man, giving his name as Nathan He, of Lancaster, Pa., as the object of excitement.

WOULD FEED ALL EUROPE THROUGH CENTRAL AGENCY

Gen. Tasker H. Bliss Declares Food Plentiful. Distribution Lacking.

GERMAN POWER GONE

American Military Representative Suggests Cure For Bolsheviks.

Europe is practically self-sustaining, and therefore stands in little need of assistance from the United States. She has plenty of food, but the individual nations are holding fast to it, and consequently it is not being distributed in such a way as to bring the needed relief.

Sees Democracy Triumphant

Speaking of the coming development of Europe, Gen. Bliss said: "The conditions in France are very good and there, as in most other European countries, now, the governments are ready to be helped by the people to a greater extent than ever before in the history of the world. The people, as such, have been held down more or less in former times, but that situation is being sensibly changed and democracy is making great progress."

German Menace Gone

"The menace of Germany as a military power is gone," he said, "and I do not see how she can be a danger commercially. She was a mere shell when she collapsed and it will be long before she will be able to pay her obligations to the allies, and in the meantime she will be kept down as a military power by the provisions of the treaty of peace."

She Dreams of Aero Flight As 101 Candles Are Glowing On Her Xmas Birthday Cake

Mrs. Eliza Bruce, when she sits down to dinner at her home, 935 S street northwest, today, will see before her a birthday cake, the surface of which will be illuminated by 101 candles. The cake belongs to her. She is believed to be the oldest woman in Washington.

GAS MAIN BREAK KILLS 2, HURTS 7

Burlington, Vt., Dec. 24.—Two women are dead, seven persons are believed to be dying and many others in a serious condition from gas fumes which penetrated their homes from a leak in a main today.

Fiume Agreement Denied By Roman Authorities

London, Dec. 24.—A news agency dispatch from Rome today said it had been semi-officially stated that press reports of an agreement on the Fiume situation were inaccurate.

U. S. School Survey Viewed as Calamity

While school officials of this city are doing everything possible to prevent the local school system from collapsing under the heavy strain of overcrowding and the scarcity of teachers, there seems to be a well-founded fear in school circles that the proposed local survey by the United States Bureau of Education will aggravate rather than help the situation.

Paris Madly Gay At \$100 Suppers Christmas Eve

French Capital Celebrates Holiday With Parties That Ignore Nation's Stress.

Paris, Dec. 24.—Paris celebrated Christmas Eve tonight with the customary "revellion" parties, breaking all records for lavish and costly display and throwing into glaring relief the fact that French families have never before had so much money to spend, despite the impoverished condition of the national treasury.

JAPANESE FIGHT ENGLISH CLAIMS

Exclusion From Isles Germany Lost Resented at Peace Conference.

Paris, Dec. 24.—The first Anglo-Japanese clash over the peace treaty occurred today when the Japanese delegates to the Peace Conference declined to approve a British mandate over the former German islands in the Pacific south of the Equator.

Confesses Swindling Government of \$100,000

Harrisburg, Pa., Dec. 24.—Lieut. Benjamin Wolfson, of Baltimore, and one or two other army officers stationed at the Marsh Run army supply depot, were arrested today in connection with the alleged swindle of \$100,000 worth of government supplies, it was announced by Department of Justice officials.

Denies Ford Employees To Get Increase in Pay

Detroit, Dec. 24.—E. G. Leibold, Henry Ford's personal secretary, today denied reports that the Ford Motor Company plans to make any immediate increase in the wage of their employees. His denial followed a published statement that a minimum of \$8 a day was contemplated.

35 CENTS ADDED TO COST OF TON IN D. C. MARKET

Dealers Get Notice of Increase in Anticipation of Action By Commission Created as Result of Indianapolis Strike Settlement. Boost Said to Be Nation-Wide—Bituminous Fuel Affected—Refunds May Be Made.

Retail prices of bituminous coal have been increased in Washington 35 cents a ton. Prices in Chicago have been increased from 30 to 35 cents a ton, and it is understood the same condition exists throughout the country.

GIFTS PAY RENT FOR MRS. SHONTS

Eviction of Rich Man's Widow Stayed Off by Charity of Friends.

New York, Dec. 24.—George W. Files, attorney for Mrs. Milla D. Shonts, said today that her friends had raised the \$244.75 necessary to prevent her being evicted from her apartment on nonpayment of rent.

GIRL WON'T LIE AGAIN: SHE SHOT HERSELF

New York, Dec. 24.—Grieving over the death of her husband, a girl who had been charged with shooting herself, today declared that she was not a liar.

WINE UNSAFE IN U. S., HE SHIPS IT TO SPAIN

New York, Dec. 24.—A consignment of forty-eight casks of Spanish wine, three of them containing wine made thirty-five years ago and the remainder being more than twenty years old, was shipped to Spain today on the steamship Antonio Lopez.